

**COMPREHENSIVE
CONSERVATION
PLANS FOR
NATIONAL WILDLIFE
REFUGES**

PURPOSE

**Develop a Management Plan
for Refuges Dealing with:**

- Wildlife Management**
- Habitat Management**
- Public Use**
- Law Enforcement**
- Land Use**
- Management of Adjacent Land**
- Compatibility of the Public
Use With Refuge's Mission**

COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION PLANNING STEPS

1. PREPLANNING

- Establish Vision and Goals**
- Determine Planning Area**
- Assemble Available Data**
 - Wildlife Populations**
 - Vegetative Communities**
 - Geology and Soils**
- Identify Data Gaps**

2. INITIATE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND OUTREACH

- Federal Register Notices**
- Letters to Interested Parties**
- Press Releases**
- Public Forums**
- Invitations for Comments**

3. IDENTIFY THE ISSUES

- **Biology Issues**
 - **Threatened and Endangered Species**
 - **Other Trust Species and Priority Species**
 - **Habitat Requirements**
- **Land Management Issues**
 - **Burning**
 - **Water Control**
 - **Forest Management**
 - **Agriculture**

- **Public Use Issues**
 - **Hunting**
 - **Fishing**
 - **Wildlife Observation**
 - **Wildlife Photography**
 - **Environmental Interpretation**
 - **Environmental Education**
- **Law Enforcement Issues**
 - **Safety**
 - **Access and Trespass**
- **Research**
 - **Monitoring**
 - **Data Collection**
 - **Applied Technology**

- **Human Resources**
 - **Staffing Needs**
 - **Volunteer Program**
 - **Friends Groups**
 - **Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society**
 - **Partners**

4. DEVELOP AND ANALYZE ALTERNATIVES

- Based on:**

- Public Input**
- Staff Recommendations**
- Best Available Scientific Data**
- Subject Matter Experts**

5. PREPARE DRAFT PLAN

- Determine Compatibility
e.g., Marsh Access vs.
Waterfowl Nesting**
- Review Internally**
- Review By Public at Public Forums**

6. PREPARE AND ADOPT FINAL PLAN

- Public Comment Analysis**
- Public Comment Response**
- Environmental Assessment**
- Internal Review**
- Public Notice in Federal Register**

7. IMPLEMENT PLAN

MONITOR RESULTS

EVALUATE RESULTS

- Analyze Effects of Plan**
- Monitor Wildlife**
- Monitor Vegetation**
- Evaluate Public Use Impacts**
- Evaluate Law Enforcement**

8. REVIEW AND REVISE PLAN

- Analyze Results of Monitoring**
- Revise Plan to Improve Results**
 - e.g., Alter Frequency of Burning or Timing of Water Management to Change Effects**
- Revise Plan to Reflect Budget Constraints**
- Maintain Public Involvement**

**CEDAR
ISLAND
NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
REFUGE**

ESTABLISHMENT AND ACQUISITION AUTHORITY

THE MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION ACT OF 1929 PROVIDED THE BASIC AUTHORITY, AND THE MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING STAMP ACT OF 1934 PROVIDED THE FUNDS FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND ACQUISITION OF THE CEDAR ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE IN 1964.

IN 1990, ADDITIONAL ACREAGE (BAY LAND TRACT) WAS ACQUIRED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE FISH AND WILDLIFE ACT OF 1956 TO BRING THE TOTAL LAND TO 14,480 ACRES.

REFUGE PURPOSES

“... for use as an inviolate sanctuary, or any other management purpose, for migratory birds...”

“... for the development, advancement, management, conservation, and protection of fish and wildlife resources...”

“... for the benefit of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, in performing its activities and services. Such acceptance may be subject to the terms of any restrictive or affirmative covenant, or condition of servitude...”

PAST LAND MANAGEMENT

**OCCASIONAL PRESCRIBED BURNING BY THE
STAFF FROM THE MATTAMUSKEET NATIONAL
WILDLIFE REFUGE AND OTHER EASTERN
NORTH CAROLINA REFUGES**

**LAW ENFORCEMENT FROM THE
MATTAMUSKEET NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

**MANAGEMENT LIMITED DUE TO THE ABSENCE
OF STAFF LOCATED ON THE REFUGE**

LAND BASE

(14,480 ACRES TOTAL)

11,000 ACRES

BRACKISH MARSH

1,500 ACRES

PINE SAVANNA

1,425 ACRES

MARITIME SWAMP FOREST

150 ACRES

MARITIME SWAMP SHRUB

130 ACRES

COASTAL FRINGE SANDHILLS

100 ACRES

BAY FOREST

75 ACRES

ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS

60 ACRES

CYPRESS/GUM SWAMP

40 ACRES

DUNE GRASS/BEACH

WILDLIFE SPECIES OF MANAGEMENT CONCERN (FEDERAL TRUST SPECIES)

RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER

BACHMAN'S SPARROW

BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH

SALTMARSH SHARP-TAILED SPARROW

BLACK RAIL

CLAPPER RAIL

BLACK SKIMMER

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK

REDHEAD

LESSER SCAUP

BLACK SCOTER

COMMON LOON

RED-THROATED LOON

FORSTER'S TERN

NON-CONSUMPTIVE RECREATION

**HIKING/WALKING
BOATING**

**WILDLIFE OBSERVATION
WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY**

CONSUMPTIVE RECREATION

FISHING

WATERFOWL HUNTING

SPECIAL USE PERMITS

BOAT DOCK – DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOAT DOCKS – PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS

NORTH CAROLINA NATURAL HERITAGE AREAS

TUMP ISLAND

POINT OF GRASS ISLANDS

LANDS BETWEEN NORTH BAY AND WEST BAY

**LANDS BETWEEN ROUTE 12
AND WEST OF THE HEADQUARTERS**

LAW ENFORCEMENT PROBLEMS

DUMPING/LITTERING

WATERFOWL BLINDS

POACHING

BAITING WILDLIFE

TREE CUTTING

TRESPASS AND OTHER ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLE TRAFFIC